

RECOGNIZING 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ALLIED LANDING AT NOR-
MANDY DURING WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a poem written by one of my constituents, Benedict Panzarella of Plainview, NY. Mr. Panzarella is an author, journalist and poet. He served as a U.S. Army Glider Crew member at the Invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. I was proud to present him recently with the Liberty Medal for his service and courage on that day. The events of D-Day inspired Mr. Panzarella's poem "Normandy."

NORMANDY

(By Benedict P. Panzarella)

Sleep tight tonight.
Pack your gear
Check it twice
The time is near
Tomorrow we go
On board the craft
to take us
We know not where.
THEY know the place
We are to land.
It's marked by them
on tables of sand.
With children's toys
They play their games
But this is war, WE
May go down in flames.
A ship of canvas
On tubes of steel
A motorless ship
Pulled by a rope.
A trailer load
Filled with life
(K Rations)
And death (Gas and ammo)
We pray the pilot
On this night
Will guide us true
On this fateful flight.
We fly in darkness
On this flimsy craft.
We reach our target
At last.
We know we're there.
We know for sure
Hitler's greetings
Are loud and clear.
The rope is cut!
The shaking stops.
We smoothly glide
Over tall tree tops.
We stop abruptly
As we hit some poles.
Planted by Rommel
To clip our wings.
We are here
For us
The battle
Has just begun.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this chamber on

June 8 and June 9, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 229, 230 and 231.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 228, "Condemning the crackdown on democracy protestors in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China on the 15th anniversary of that tragic massacre," I regret that I was unavoidably detained and therefore unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

A SALUTE TO HARLAN AND JEFF
LEE AND JOSEPH T. EDMISTON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute my good friends Harlan and Jeff Lee at The Lee Group and Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director, of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, who are being honored by the Westside Urban Forum on June 11, 2004.

Harlan and Jeff Lee are receiving the Westside Prize for successfully creating liveable urban communities in urban Los Angeles while protecting the neighborhoods and the environment. The Lee Group has been one of the premier real estate development companies and market leaders in Southern California for the past six decades. I have known first hand of their good work for many years. The Lee Group is at the forefront of the "Smart Growth" movement that seeks to link jobs, housing, and economic development in compact, livable environments to revitalize urban areas and preserve open space. Their projects serve as models for future development. They address housing needs, offer affordable ownership and provide senior and disabled rental housing without sacrificing aesthetics and financial feasibility.

For many years Harlan and Jeff have been recognized for their great vision, their social consciousness and their excellent taste. They have received many well deserved accolades. In 1998, they were selected by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to participate in Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH), a new housing initiative by President Clinton. On May 4, 1998, President Clinton attended the groundbreaking for Village Green, a project of The Lee Group, to announce the national kickoff for the PATH program and designate Village Green as the first national PATH pilot site.

The first Westside Legacy Award is being presented to Joseph Edmiston and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC). His extraordinary vision and success has helped preserve, protect, restore and enhance significant open spaces in Southern California. I have known and worked with Joe for over two

decades and am pleased he has been chosen to receive this award. He helped enact the Santa Monica Comprehensive Plan which enabled me to introduce state legislation establishing the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in 1979.

For the past twenty-four years, Joe, the staff, the board and volunteers of the SMMC have saved over 55,000 acres of land for public use. The SMMC has reclaimed land in Los Angeles' urban areas for innovative park use.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to my good friends and distinguished individuals, Harlan and Jeff Lee and Joe Edmiston for their outstanding contributions to our community.

CO-SPONSORSHIP OF H.R. 4061

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in regards to H.R. 4061, the Assistance for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Act of 2004, which passed the House International Relations Committee by unanimous consent on March 31st.

On May 5th the International Relations Committee filed House Report 108-479.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of co-sponsors to a bill once the committee report has been filed, I am not able to formally add another Member of Congress as a co-sponsor of this legislation.

I ask that the record show that Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts is in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4061.

HONORING THE SHEDD AQUARIUM

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my best wishes to everyone associated with Chicago's John G. Shedd Aquarium on the occasion of its Gala 2004 Night Tide Tango.

Chicagoans are very proud to be home to the world's largest indoor aquarium. More than two million visitors who travel to our city to visit this lakefront treasure each year discover a diverse and contemporary institution dedicated to conservation, education and family fun.

The gala event, to be held on June 12, gives me the opportunity to commend so many committed Chicagoans who have dedicated countless hours ensuring that the aquarium remains one of our city's brightest gems.

I want to specifically recognize Chairman Stephen Byron Smith, Senior Vice Chairman Philip D. Block III, President and CEO Ted Beattie, and Gala Chairmen, Paula Epstein and Linda Mengelt. Each deserves high praise for devoting their time and energy to this undoubtedly worthwhile cause.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my admiration for the museum's originality and innovation. Visitors can enjoy the